


**OFFICE OF THE CHAIR**  
**JOE A. MARTINEZ, CHAIRMAN**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**DISTRICT 11**

## Memorandum

To: George Burgess, County Manager

From: Joe A. Martinez, Chairman 

Date: July 24, 2006

Re: Miami Dade Housing Agency

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The above-mentioned agency has been scrutinized this week in the media as it relates to several actions that were taken by them over the past several years. While this scrutiny is on-going, the issues that have been raised are not only alarming but quite frankly depict an exuberant disregard for the public trust that appears to have disenfranchised the neediest in our community. To say that I am disgusted at what I have read as it pertains to the lack of oversight within the agency is an understatement.

To this end, I have discussed this situation with Assistant USHUD Secretary Orlando Cabrera at length this morning and offered my most sincere support in having his agency and law enforcement partners investigate the alleged inappropriate use of tax payer monies for a program that was supposed to have assisted those in need within our community. As everyone is aware, the Office of the Inspector General has been conducting an audit of the Miami Dade Housing Agency for over four months. Furthermore, after discussing this matter with the Inspector General this morning, he advised that said audit is quite expansive and his office is expected to release a detailed report in the very near future which will also address some of the same issues which have been raised in the media. In doing so, I believe that we can work together with USHUD to assure them that we will do whatever necessary to correct this situation and not jeopardize the much needed funding in order to erect and rehabilitate existing facilities in the best interest of Miami Dade County and its residents.

If you should have any questions please call me at (305) 375-5511.

JM/jim

Cc: Honorable Mayor Carlos Alvarez  
Honorable Vice-Chairman Dennis C. Moss and  
Members of the Board of County Commissioners  
Christopher Mazella, Office of the Inspector General  
Murray Greenberg, County Attorney